

around the world, as they create unity, justice and peace in a world broken by poverty, violence, hunger and oppression.

28 Include in your prayers the Rev. Nathan and Sharonette Bowman, ELCA missionaries who are serving in parish and social service ministries in Japan.

29 Give thanks for the countless adults who take seriously their role as faith mentors for youth who are trying to find their way in a complex world.

30 Pray for the 10th Assembly of the World Council of Churches, which begins today in Busan, South Korea, under the theme “God of life, lead us to justice and peace.” The ELCA is a member of the council.

31 Remember in your prayers the people in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program as they begin their year of walking in accompaniment with brothers and sisters in an unfamiliar culture far from home.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



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PRAYER VENTURES

OCTOBER 2013

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Pray for peace in Egypt and for a reconciliation between its citizens and their government.

2 Pray for all who are affected by the criminal justice system – for victims and offenders, their families and loved ones – as we seek to implement the new ELCA social statement, “The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries.”

3 Praise God for the ELCA volunteer missionaries and give thanks for the many English-speaking teachers serving at Lutheran schools in Bratislava, Kosice, and Tisovec, Slovakia.

4 Pray for peace in Syria and the hope that the day will come when its citizens are no longer under the threat of violence and death.

5 Pray for the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton as she is installed today as the ELCA presiding bishop; remember in your prayers the Rev. Mark Hanson as he concludes his term of service as presiding bishop.

6 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Merciful God, we thank you for speaking to the people of the Republic of Congo and Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe through the Bible. May they find strength and wisdom in your word. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

7 During Mental Illness Awareness Week, Oct. 6-12, remember those who suffer from mental illness and brain disorders. Pray for families and caregivers, that they may have wisdom, love and peace.

8 Pray for all those suffering in abusive relationships and for the efforts in our congregations to help people dealing with domestic violence.

9 Remember in your prayers ELCA missionaries in Nigeria Mary Beth and Bayo Oyebade and their HIV and AIDS ministry there.

10 Pray for those who endure flood and fire, especially our brothers and sisters in Colorado and New Jersey. Ease the fears of all and make your presence known.

11 Give thanks for the contributions to the ELCA Vision for Mission, gifts that enable this church to build strategies for the future, mobilize people for mission, promote generosity and create new and renewed congregations.

12 Remember in your prayers the many homeless ministries supported by ELCA congregations. In particular, lift up the Shobi's Table, a ministry of radical hospitality among the homeless population of St. Paul, Minn.

13 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty God, keep us safe in body, mind and spirit as we strive to accomplish all the work you have for us. Give us strength to serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

14 Give thanks for the congregations, such as Ascension Lutheran Church, Riverside, Ill., that are making a difference in the global church by sponsoring an ELCA missionary. Ascension was one of the first ELCA congregations to support Karen Anderson in her work with "Popular Education in Health" and "Action for Health in the Americas" in Chile.

15 Remember in your prayers the recipients around the world of ELCA Good Gifts and pray that, through the generosity of others, those recipients will see a better tomorrow.

16 Remember in your prayers the Rev. Austin and Tanya Propst, ELCA missionaries who are the Madagascar coordinators for the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program.

17 Pray for those planning the 2014 Triennial gathering of the Women of the ELCA to be held in Charlotte, N.C.

18 Remember in your prayers the Rev. Anna Ballan, an ELCA missionary in Sweden serving in parish ministry.

19 Give thanks for those on the staff of your synod office as they go about the daily needs of this church in your synod.

20 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

We thank you, God, for your gifts of the earth, sea and sky. We ask you to be with us as we strive to be good caretakers of those gifts, that we live in harmony with the natural rhythms of life.

21 Remember in your prayers ELCA instructor in Japan Allyson Bedford, who is teaching English as a second language.

22 Pray for the ELCA's disability ministries, which include making the church welcoming to people with mental illness and brain disorders, visual impairments and hearing disorders.

23 Pray for the efforts in the ELCA and other denominations that are addressing the trend of declining active church membership.

24 Pray for the ELCA Global Mission ministry and all those who walk in accompaniment with our sisters and brothers around the world in the global church.

25 Give thanks for the ELCA Fund for Leaders and pray for its continued support as it provides crucial financial aid for students preparing for the ministry at one of the ELCA's eight seminaries.

26 Remember in your prayers the congregations of the ELCA and their daily efforts to be welcoming to all and to do God's work with our hands where needed.

27 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

O Lord, we give you thanks today for the mission and ministry of The Lutheran World Federation. Be with them in the countless places where they work